

Shovel Ready

Indiana's Site Selection Program for Economic Development

The Shovel Ready Program improves the marketability of Indiana communities in the site selection process. Shovel Ready plays a vital role in state economic development by helping companies and communities identify sites that can be rapidly developed. To be Shovel Ready-certified, a site must have undergone an environmental assessment and have been qualified for expedited permitting with state regulatory agencies to allow quick investment and expansion.

Benefits

Shovel Ready lowers site development costs, improves state permitting efficiencies and enhances site marketability. Because site information is available before development, potential risks of investing in and improving new land are reduced for businesses.

How It Works

The Indiana Economic Development Corporation administers Shovel Ready and uses the Fast Access Site Team (FASTeam) to deliver fast-track permitting at the state level.

Shovel Ready sites are certified by the FASTeam, which is composed of representatives from the Indiana Economic Development Corporation, Governor's Office, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Indiana Department of Environmental Management, Indiana Department of Transportation, Indiana State Department of Health, Indiana State Department of Agriculture and the Indiana State Department of Homeland Security.

Goals

- Help local communities prepare sites for development by pre-permitting a site as much as possible
- Certify sites to help companies more easily navigate the selection and permitting process
- Generate a list of remaining permits necessary for a specific site
- Help fast-track the remaining state, federal and local business/industry specific permits
- Provide marketing assistance through the IEDC site selection database

Minimum Standards for Certification

- Executive level community support (Mayor, County Commissioner, Town Council President) demonstrating a local commitment to expedite, when necessary, local permitting
- Ownership of property clearly identified; property should be owned or optioned by local economic development organization, local unit of government, developer, end user or utility
- Sufficient infrastructure in place
- Identification of water bodies and receiving streams at the site, including having a Waters of the State determination
- Topography maps associated with the site
- Environmental assessment of property complete through Phase I, and if indicated, Phase II

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